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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



SD Guard, Suriname military train in riot, crowd control

PARAMARIBO, Suriname – Several members of the South Dakota National Guard's 235th Military Police Company and 114th Security Forces Squadron traveled to the Republic of Suriname to exchange information on techniques and procedures for crowd and riot control with soldiers from the Suriname National Army, Dec. 10-11.

The purpose of the exchange was to enhance the military police force's ability to preserve the peace, mitigate disruptions and maintain civil order during a domestic crisis under the direction of civil authority. Focus areas included crowd/riot control methodology and use of non-lethal weapons.

The SDNG Soldiers and Airmen continued to strengthen ties within the region by discussing and demonstrating current U.S. tactics, techniques and procedures with the Suriname soldiers while simultaneously improving their own skills, said Lt. Col. Orson Ward, SDNG's deputy Directorate of Plans (J5).

"The partnership we have with Suriname provides an excellent opportunity for our Soldiers and Airmen to interact with a foreign military, foster long-lasting relationships and develop their own military skill sets by sharing with others," said Ward.

The military-to-military exchange of information was conducted as part of the South Dakota-Suriname State Partnership Program. The program supports U.S. national interests and security cooperation goals by engaging partner nations through military, social, political and economic conduits at the local, state and national level.

The visit to the South American country was an opportunity to reinforce the existing partnership between the SDNG and Suriname military.

"This exchange reinforces our partnership on a very personal and professional level – all participants are looking forward to the next opportunity to work together," said Ward.

In coordination with U.S. Southern Command, Suriname and South Dakota established a successful security cooperation relationship in 2006 under the National Guard Bureau's State Partnership Program. Since then, numerous exchanges have taken place between South Dakota and Suriname to share experiences and best practices in a variety of military training.

The program also provides unique capacity-building capabilities to combatant commanders through partnerships between U.S. states and foreign countries.

High resolution photos are available at www.flikr.com/photos/southdakotanationalguard



121211-Z-ZZ999-001: Soldiers from the Suriname National Army practice techniques for crowd and riot control during an information exchange with Soldiers and Airmen from the South Dakota National Guard, Dec. 11, 2014, in Paramaribo, Suriname. The purpose of the exchange is to enhance the military police force's ability to preserve the peace, mitigate disruptions and maintain civil order during a domestic crisis under the direction of civil authority. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Maj. Jerime Porter/Released)



121211-Z-ZZ999-002: Members of the South Dakota Army and Air National Guard and Suriname National Army practice techniques and procedures on how to react to a riot during an information exchange Dec. 11, 2014, in Paramaribo, Suriname. The purpose of the exchange is to enhance the military police force's ability to preserve the peace, mitigate disruptions and maintain civil order during a domestic crisis under the direction of civil authority. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Maj. Jerime Porter/Released)



121211-Z-ZZ999-003: Members of the South Dakota Army and Air National Guard and Suriname National Army practice techniques and procedures on how to react to a riot during an information exchange Dec. 11, 2014, in Paramaribo, Suriname. The purpose of the exchange is to enhance the military police force's ability to preserve the peace, mitigate disruptions and maintain civil order during a domestic crisis under the direction of civil authority. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Maj. Jerime Porter/Released)



121211-Z-ZZ999-004: Soldiers from the Suriname National Army practice techniques for crowd and riot control during an information exchange with Soldiers and Airmen from the South Dakota National Guard, Dec. 11, 2014, in Paramaribo, Suriname. The purpose of the exchange is to enhance the military police force's ability to preserve the peace, mitigate disruptions and maintain civil order during a domestic crisis under the direction of civil authority. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Maj. Jerime Porter/Released)



121211-Z-ZZ999-005: Soldiers from the Suriname National Army practice techniques for crowd and riot control during an information exchange with Soldiers and Airmen from the South Dakota National Guard, Dec. 11, 2014, in Paramaribo, Suriname. The purpose of the exchange is to enhance the military police force's ability to preserve the peace, mitigate disruptions and maintain civil order during a domestic crisis under the direction of civil authority. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Maj. Jerime Porter/Released)

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